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Plan for seizing and carrying to New-Yor

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P L A N

FOR SEIZING AND CARRYING TO NEW-YORK

COLL. WM. GOFFE THE REGICIDE,

As fet forth in the affidavit of John London, Apr. 20, 1678.

Published from the original in the office of the Secretary of State of New-York,

ВY

FRANKLIN B. HOUGH, M. D.

With other documents on the same subject among the State Papers of Connecticut.

PRESIDENT STILES.

ALBANY.

WEED, PARSONS & Co.

M. DCCC. LV.

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ant.

[&]quot;They did not regard them as Traitors, but as unfortunate fufferers in the noble cause of civil Liberty, prostrated by the Restoration, and again lost and overwhelmed in the return and irresistable inundation of Tyranny."

THE DEPOSICON

OF

JOHN LONDON

of Windsor in Connecticutt Apr. 20, 1678.

[N. Y. Colonial MSS., Vol. xxix, Secretary's Office, Albany, N. Y.]

John London of Winfor neare Hartford in the Colony of Conecticutt in New England, aged about fifty yeares, depofeth That Joseph Bull Sen'r (comonly called Capt Bull,) of Hartford, hath for severall yeares past (& for ought hee knowes still doth) kept privately Coll Goffe, at his owne house there, or his sons, hee goeing by the name of Mr Cooke; And that Whaley lived & dyed at Hadley in those parts, & was buryed in the

buryeing place there. That being certifyed of the above Goffes aboade, in the month of May last, hee the deponent, together with Robert Howard of Winfor aforefd (who profésseth phisick) went to the house of the faid Bull, where they faw him & having formerly knowne him in England the deponent was well fatisfyde that hee was the same man which sd Dr. Howard did also affirme to him, as hee had done afore, hee being the first discoverer of his being there unto him.

That the faid Dr Howard did also informe him the deponent, that the Trade driven by sd Bull or his Children, in Goods or Merchandize, was on the behalfe of sd Gosse, & that Mr. James Richards of Hartford, brought over a good cargoe for the use of fd Goffe about two yeares agoe.

That the deponent being so affured of ye faid Goffes aboade as before, in the same month of May, thinking it his duty, hee did call about & contrive which way to apprehend him, reasonably supposing by Mr Richards acting for him, being a member of the Independent Church & a principall Magistrate there, that the authority would not countenance him, but the discovery to them would rather tend to his Ruine. The deponent therefore thought it convenient to advise wth & haue affiftance of fome other persons to feize vpon & bring the faid Goffe to this place & so disclosed the fame to one Thomas Powell his neighbour, who promist to affift the deponent therein, but

no fooner had the deponent difcovered his knowledge & resolucon to the fd Powell, but hee privily went downe to Hartford upon a Saturday & gave informacon agnit him, to Major Talcott & Capt Allen. That hee the deponent was goeing away to New Yorke having his horse ready, on Monday following, but intended to furprize Coll. Goffe & carry him away with him. That the night following the fd Powell returned to Winfor with the Marshall Graves who about breake of day came to the depts house & knock't & called to him to arife.

The sd dept knowing the Mar-shallss voice askt' him what hee would have & what was the matter. The Marshallanswere'd that the dept must gett up, for the Gent. at Hart-

ford had fent to speake with him: Whereupon the deponent arose & went with them to Hartsord, where when they arrived, they went first to Major Talcotts, & from thence together to Capt Allens.

At the deponents coming there Capt Allen ask't him when hee went to New York. The dept replyed, hee did not know but if hee had any buisnesse to comand him, & would pay him for it, hee was ready to goe prefently Capt Allen said not hee but demanded him, if hee the dept had not appointed to goe thither on Monday, upon the depts saying hee knew nothing of it, Powell was call'd in then a paper was taken off the Table which Capt Allen faid hee woulde reade to him, if hee would hear it. The depont replyde that

hee came to heare what they had to alleadge agft him having fent for him upon ye Sabbath day, fetching him out of his house, as a Traytor or Malefactor.

Then Capt Allen read the paper or charge given in agft the dept by Thom: Powell relating what the dept had fd unto him. Whereupon the dept put them upon the proofe of it Powells charge being alleadged. The dept replyde hee was but a fingle Testimony, & likewise was an idle drunken fellow, & no heed to be given to what hee fd, & the depont being in passion threatened the faid Powell that if hee could not have his remedy at Law agft him hee would take his owne satisfation.

Thereupon the depont being difmist' he returned home. Not long after Majr Talcott & Capt Allen came to Windsor to seeke for other Informacon agst the dept but finding none lett the matter fall, yet charged the dept not to depart out of the County without a special Licence.

That at the same time when the sd Major Talcott & Capt Allen were then there the depont told the fd Major Talcott & Capt Allen & others preft publickely, that hee the depont knew that they kept & concealed Coll: Goffe amongst them, & that hee could when hee pleased lay his hand on his shoulder; To which they replyde the dept was mistaken, for Goffe was long fince dead, & charged the dept to bee a Traytor to their Colony & deferved to bee hanged for conspiring agst them.

That afterwards the depont made a ship to goe off to Boston under pretence of taking a horse to sell there, from thence hee ship't himfelfe for Maryland to his brother Major Ambrose London living at Annemessick, in Somersett County & there gave this Informacon upon oath to his fd brother, Collonell Stevenson, & Collonell Colburne, defiring it might bee fent into Engl'd, which they promis't. From thence the depont came to the Whorekill, & fo hither. And further faith not.

Sworne before mee by the aforesd John London, in New Yorke, the . 20th day of Apr 1680:

Matthias Nicolls, Sec'y.

[Upon the receipt of the above intelligence Gov Andros addressed

the following letter to the Governor of Connecticut, which with the accompanying documents are among the State papers of Connecticut Miscellaneous. Vol. i, Doc. 1, 2.]

Hon'ble S'rs.—Being informed by Deposicons taken upon Oath that Coll Goth hath been and is still kept and Concealed by Capt. Joseph Bull and his fonns in the Towne of Hartford under the name of Mr Cooke The fd Goth and Coll Whaley (who is fince dead in yor parts) having been perfued as Traitors, that I may not be wanting in my duty, doe hereby give you the above intimacon, noe wayes doubting of yor loyalty in euery respect and remaine Hon'ble Srs. Your affectionate neighbor and humble fer-F. Andross. vant.

New Yorke May 18th, 1680.

Superscription—

For the Honoble John Leete Esqr Governor & the Assistants of His Maties Collony of Connecticutt, att Hartford. These. For his Maties speciall service.

Matthias Nicolls, Sec'y.

On the face of the letter in the handwriting of Sec'y. Allyn.

Presently upon receipt of this letter, June 10th, '80, the Gour. Major Talcott & the Secretary being (when they received the letter) together, ordered the Secretary to send forth a warrant to the constables of Hartford to make search for sd Col. Goff in the letter metioned which was don accordingly before we parted. The copy of ye warrn.

To the Constables of Hartford. Whereas Sr. Edmond Andross Governor of N: Yorke by his letters to us just now received hath certifyed to us that Captn Jos. Bull & his fonns of this Town doe conceale Col: Goffe under the name of Mr. Cooke, these are therefore in his Maties. name to will & require you and strictly to charge and command you upon fight hereof to make diligent fearch in the houses barns out houses & all places therein for the fayd Col: Goffe, & if you find him or them or any stranger in their or either of their houses you are to aprehend & in fafe custody to convay them to the Governor, that they may be examind & disposed of according to His Ma'ties pleasure formerly declared to us, & you are also to make search

in all places wth in your limits where there may be any (or the least) sufficient that they may be hid or concealed, & you are to make return of the seruing hereof to the Governor vnder your hands, hereof you may not fayle as you will answer the contrary at your perill. Dated in Hartford June 10th, 1680, p order of ye Govr. &c.

figned p. John Allyn, Secret'ry.

REPLY TO ANDROSS'S LETTER.

Hartford, June 11th, 1680: Hon'ble Sr:--Athough we must acknowledg o'r engagement vnto your Honor for giuing vs intimation of what had been offerd to your selfe respecting his Maties seruice (we should have taken it well had your Honor been pleased to have

giuen vs an acco't. of the names of the informers (which yet we desire you would be pleased to doe speedily) & we doubt not but to giue you sufficient sattisfaction, to clear it vp that we are much abused by those falls reports, concerning the good people of this place. For the prient we know not how to acknowledg any thankes to the informers, who (by the effect) seem to haue acted under gross mistakes (poffibly) to delude your Honor & cast reproach upon orselues of this place, for that we being upon a folemne occasion together when we received your letter, and information therein, we forthwith dispatcht a speciall warrant to or constables &marshall, to make a dilligent search after the person mentioned, whoe being upon oath, returned they had with all care & dilligence made the fayd fearch but could find no fuch person as was mentioned, nor any ftranger that in the least could be fuspected to be any such person: After the fearch o'r people were amused that any such thing could be fuspected at Hartford: But the father of lyes is o'r enemie & doth instigate his instruments to maligne this poore Colony, but we hope the Father of lights will vindicate vs in his due time, & we pray your Honors neighbourly charatie in the meane space, with due witness bearing against all that endeavoure to abuse with falls news & stories, as is done by o'rselues in such case, otherwise enough of such matters had not been wanting against neighbours to rays bad blood by ill perfons betwixt fuch as defire to mayntaine good correspondency with o'r professed freinds that are neerly scituate to vs in this wildernesse, we have not to ad but o'r respects to your Honor & that we are Hono'ble Sr.

Your affectionate freinds & humble fervants, The Governor & Affifts prefent,

> p their order figned John Allyn Sec'ry.

These for the Hon'ble Sr Edmun Andross Knt. & Gov'r of his royall highness territories in America, at forte James in N. Yorke.

